

The Heavy Trash Facts

A publication from the City of Houston Solid Waste Management Department (SWMD)
www.houstonsolidwaste.org

Want to Get Rid of That Trash?

Once a month, residents can dispose of large items such as furniture, appliances, large tree branches, and up to 4 tires through the heavy trash pick up service.

- ✓ Heavy trash should be placed adjacent to the front curb in a location easily accessible to the collection vehicle between the hours of **6:00 p.m.** the Friday before and **7:00 a.m.** on the scheduled collection day.
- ✓ Heavy trash crews can collect a maximum of 4 cubic yards of building material generated by the resident in connection with the maintenance of a residential property. These materials can **not** include roofing shingles, brick, plaster, or concrete.
- ✓ Appliances containing refrigerant must have a tag attached to them certifying that a qualified technician has removed the refrigerant.
- ✓ Heavy trash material should not be stacked under low overhead cabling, signs, or mailboxes; next to fence posts; or on top of water meters, gas meters, fire hydrants, or other exposed utility components.
- ✓ Materials should **not** be placed in the street, on the sidewalk or other right-of-way, or in any manner that would interfere with pedestrian or vehicular traffic. Heavy trash collection is limited to residential units and vacant residential lots **only** if the waste generated is in connection with the maintenance of the property.

The SWMD is not allowed to collect any material that was generated by contractors who were retained by a resident to perform work on his or her residential property. It is the contractor's responsibility to remove, or have someone remove, all debris generated from the project.

These contractor related activities include, but are not limited to: trimming and removing trees, remodeling, new construction and roofing. If authorized items placed for collection are mixed with unauthorized items, Department personnel are **not** obligated to sort the materials and may refuse the entire load. Solid waste collection services are not available to multi-residential structures of more than 8 units.

Where to Dispose of Trash in Your Neighborhood

Residents may dispose of heavy trash at one of the City's neighborhood depository facilities. Each user must provide proof of residency, including a Texas Driver's Licence or ID, a current utility bill, or city property tax receipt. The depositories accept the same materials as the monthly heavy trash collection (furniture, tree limbs, stoves, refrigerators, etc.) Depositories will also accept up to 10 automobile tires per trip per residential unit. Citizens must unload their tires and place them in a specified trailer. Materials brought in a commercial vehicle will not be accepted. SWMD personnel will not unload your tires or heavy trash.

Residents may use depositories four times per month. Please arrive at least 30 minutes before closing to allow adequate time to unload.

Depository Locations:

Northeast Area:
5565 Kirkpatrick (713) 675-3208

Southeast Area:
9200 Lawndale (713) 926-1247

South Area:
5100 Sunbeam (713) 738-1936

Locations are open Wednesday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., except during holidays. Special daylight savings hours are 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Fines:

Violation of any provision of the Solid Waste Ordinance is punishable upon first conviction by a fine of no less than \$2,000.

Each subsequent conviction is punishable by a fine of no less than \$250 no more than \$2,000. Each day that any violation continues may be punishable as a separate offense.

To report a violation or file a complaint, call 3-1-1.